

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 241690

62

ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-06 COME-00 AGR-05

AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 L-03 EUR-12

/055 R

DRAFTED BY OPIC/GC:MWISS

APPROVED BY EB/ID/OIA:RJSMITH

EB/IFD/OIA:DSTEBBING

AF/W:ESVENDSEN (INFO)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

OPIC/ID:CMIDDLETON: OPIC/GD:BHENDERSON

----- 049266

R 290159Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 241690

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: STATUS OF POTENTIAL CHROMITE AND FISHING/SHRIMPING
INVESTMENTS

REF: (A) FREETOWN 2946; (B) STATE 176028

1. CHROMITE:

A. NEW JERSEY ZINC - FRANK TYE STATES THAT A GEOLOGIST
ACCOMPANIED HIM TO SIERRA LEONE ON HIS LATEST VISIT, WHICH
OCCURRED DURING TIME AMBASSADOR WAS IN WASHINGTON FOR CON-
SULTATIONS. TYE REGRETTED MISSING OPPORTUNITY TO PAY COUR-
TESY CALL. THIS PRELIMINARY SURVEY DID NOT REVEAL MASSIVE
AMOUNTS OF CHROMITE, HOWEVER, BASED UPON HIS INITIAL
INVESTIGATION IT IS LIKELY THAT NEW JERSEY ZINC WILL REOPEN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 241690

OLD CHROMITE MINE. NEXT STEP FROM TYE'S PERSPECTIVE IS

HIS MEETING THIS WEEK WITH NEW JERSEY ZINC OFFICIALS, THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH HE WILL REPORT TO WISS WHO WILL RELAY TO EMBASSY. TYE PLANS TO SEND SOME OF NEW JERSEY ZINC'S CANADIAN GEOLOGISTS TO SIERRA LEONE DURING THE CANADIAN WINTER TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE THE EXTENT AND QUALITY OF THE SIERRA LEONEAN CHROMITE.

B. U.S. STEEL -- JOE DEMEURE, U.S. STEEL INTERNATIONAL COUNSEL, EXPECTS DECISION IN A FEW WEEKS ON WHETHER COMPANY WILL INVEST IN EITHER CHROMITE OR IRON ORE. UNOFFICIALLY, IN HIS OPINION, NEITHER LOOK LIKE GOOD PROSPECTS NOW. WILL INFORM EMBASSY OF DECISION WHEN REACHED.

C. ENGELHARD MINERALS & CHEMICALS CORP. (PHILIPPS BROS. DIV.) -- GEORGE COOPER, FORMERLY VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPIC'S INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, HAS BECOME A VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGELHARD. HE RECENTLY SAID THAT HIS INTEREST IN THE SIERRA LEONEAN CHROMITE DEPOSITS CONTINUES AND HE WILL FOLLOW THROUGH IN HIS NEW POSITION.

2. FISHING/SHRIMPING:

A. SALE OF VAN CAMP'S STOCK -- THE PLANNED SALE OF VAN CAMP'S EQUITY INTEREST IN THREE FISHING/SHRIMPING VENTURES IN SIERRA LEONE (FIL, JVFE AND SHRIMP-EX) HAS BEEN DELAYED BY THE RESIGNATION FROM MESURADO OF BRADSHAW AND BENJAMIN, VAN CAMP'S TWO CHIEF NEGOTIATORS. RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS ON BEHALF OF VAN CAMP AND MESURADO IS FRED CLARK, AN ENGLISHMAN. CLARK FEELS THAT ETHICS REQUIRE HIM TO GIVE RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL TO NICK CLONOS, SINCE BRADSHAW HAD AGREED TO SALE REPORTED REF. B. HOWEVER, GOSL HAS LET CLARK KNOW THAT IT WANTS THE MESURADO AND VAN CAMP INTERESTS SOLD TO SIERRA FISH, A CORPORATION VAN CAMP BELIEVES TO BE OWNED BY GOSL AND JAMIL SAID MOHAMMED, PERHAPS WITH FRENCH AND SOVIET BACKING.

B. CONTINENTAL -- CONTINENTAL SEAFOODS HAS ARRANGED A MEETING THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS, ON AN URGENT BASIS, PURCHASING OPIC INSURANCE FOR THEIR PLANNED INVESTMENT IN FISHING IN SIERRA LEONE. CONNECTION WITH ABOVE DESCRIBED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 241690

SALE NOT YET CLEAR. RESULTS OF MEETING WILL BE REPORTED TO EMBASSY. DECONTROL 9/27/78. ROBINSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHING INDUSTRY, MINING INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE241690
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MWISS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760368-0159
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976097/aaaaafex.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OPIC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 FREETOWN 2946, 76 STATE 176028
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUN 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF POTENTIAL CHROMITE AND FISHING/SHRIMPING INVESTMENTS
TAGS: EFIN, SL
To: FREETOWN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006